

Snow and Ice Removal

Many falls happen when sidewalks, driveways, and walkways are covered in snow and ice. Remember, not only do we have children walking on the sidewalk, but parcel, mail and medical delivery people who could slip and fall injuring themselves, holding the resident liable.



Keep in mind that simply clearing the snow may not be enough to keep the area safe; ice is always a concern during the winter. A regular routine for keeping access to your home clear should include adding sand or rock salt to slippery spots.



If you live next door to someone who may not be able to shovel their sidewalk, do them a favor, shovel it for them. Everyone will appreciate the gesture.



Although it is appreciated, plowing snow, ice, dirt and debris into the street is unlawful. Residents are encouraged to place excess snow in their front and side yards to utilize the moisture when it melts.

Water and sprinkler lines. Properly winterize your sprinkler system to ensure proper protection from the freezing cold. A little insulation can go along way and keep your valuables safe.

Mobile home plumbing is extremely vulnerable to the blowing cold of winter. Without the proper protection, pipes will freeze, crack and burst and the cost of repairs can become overwhelming. To keep the water flowing and your budget intact, winterize mobile home plumbing by installing foam board insulation inside your skirting and checking your heat tape for frays or faulty lines.



Seasonal Winter Obligations



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Critter Corner



Would you go outside in the cold without a coat? So

why would you let your dog? If normally you shave your dog's coat down to the skin, avoid doing this during the winter, as a longer coat will provide more warmth. Short-haired breeds will greatly benefit from a coat or sweater; it is best for them to be covered with a high collar or turtleneck and all the way to the base of the tail and the belly.

After your dog comes in from the snow, sleet, or ice, be sure to thoroughly wipe off his legs, paws, stomach, and anywhere else that came in contact with the cold stuff.



Paw pads are particularly sensitive to the elements and can become dry, cracked, and bleed from exposure to the snow and ice. Dogs can also pick up salt, antifreeze, or other potentially dangerous chemicals while outside--wiping him down can help prevent accidental ingestion.



MEE-OUCH!

You know how warm your car is after you turn it off? During the winter, outdoor cats will sometimes sleep under the hoods of cars for warmth. Once the motor is started, the cat can be injured or killed by the fan belt. If there are outdoor cats in your area, bang loudly on the car hood before starting the engine to give the cat a chance to escape.



Chilling Facts on Antifreeze

Check your garage and driveway for antifreeze and other chemicals. Antifreeze is a deadly poison, but it has a sweet taste that attracts animals. Wipe up any spills right away. Better yet, use pet-safe antifreeze, which is made with propylene glycol. If ingested in small amounts, it will not hurt pets, wildlife or your family.



Outside Animals

Anytime you leave your pet outside it needs to have shade, shelter, food and water. Short haired dogs and cats are best kept indoors. On those colder days/nights, bring in the pets, as they are affected by the elements, same as you.

Pets and Ponds

When temperatures hover around freezing, ponds and lakes can be dangerous to loose pets by falling in. Dogs can suffer from hypothermia, just like people. Winter is for fun, but be safe and keep your pets safe.

